(b) if so, what is the potential being tapped now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The gross wind power potential in Andhra Pradesh has been estimated at about 8275 MW. The technical potential which is limited by the grid capacity is at present about 1750 MW. A total wind power capacity of 93 MW has so far been installed in the State.

Legislation of harness non-conventional energy sources

2246. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring forward a legislation to harness and regulate energy from non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The Government has already introduced a Comprehensive Electricity Bill, 2001 in the Lok Sabha during August, 2001 which covers the entire energy sector. The Bill, *inter alia*, provides for promotion of non-conventional energy sources. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy, who have submitted their Report. The Government has moved Notice for consideration of the Bill, and also the Notice for Amendment.

Tapping solar energy in Assam

2247. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the success in tapping energy from the Sun in Assam in last Five Year Plan period;

(b) what is the mechanism to tap such energy;

(c) whether it is fruitful in Assam; and

(d) whether any new target for tapping more solar energy has been fixed for country under the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) Solar energy can be tapped through two principal routes — the thermal route for water heating, drying, cooking etc. and the photovoltaic route for converting sunlight into electricity which can be used for a variety of purposes such as lighting, pumping, communications, refrigeration and power generation. A number of solar devices have been developed for different applications and are being installed all over the country under various schemes of the Ministry. In the State of Assam, 355 solar lanterns, 1216 solar home systems, 4.50 k. Wp capacity of power plants and 188 sq. meters of collector area for water heating have been installed during the last Five Year Plan period. In addition, 11 villages have been electrified by solar home systems, street lights and other systems. The use of solar energy has been found fruitful in Assam.

(d) During the Tenth plan period, to tap more energy from the Sun, a target of 2,50,000 solar home systems, 3,00,000 solar lanterns, 8000 SPV water pumps, 7000 solar generators, 8.60 MW capacity of SPV power plants, 5,10,000 sq. m. of collector area for solar water heating systems and around 2,00,000 solar cookers has been kept for the entire country. In addition, 4000 villages are proposed to be electrified through solar energy. A 140 MW integrated combined cycle power plant with a component of 35 MW of solar thermal is also proposed to be installed at Mathania near Jodhpur in Rajasthan.

Rural electrification in Bihar

†2248. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal to the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.